IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for developing a custom farm management plan for production agriculture pertaining to a farm, comprising the steps of:

    a. prompting a user to input information pertaining to said farm;

    b. obtaining said input information pertaining to said farm from said user via ~~a global~~ <u>an</u> electronic communications network;

    c. obtaining third party industry information from at least one third party industry professional ~~via said electronic communications network~~;

    d. <u>generating a mathematical model of said farm based on said input information and said third party industry information;</u>

    ~~d~~ e. analyzing said <u>mathematical model</u> ~~input information pertaining to said farm and said third party industry information obtained from said third party industry professional~~;

    ~~e~~ f. generating a first custom farm management plan based on said <u>analyzing of said mathematical model</u> ~~input information and said third party industry information~~; <u>and</u>

    ~~f~~ g. transmitting said custom farm management plan to said user ~~to be displayed~~ <u>in a form displayable</u> by said user.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said custom farm management plan for production agriculture comprises crop selection and allocation of farm resources for seasonal or multi-seasonal cropping strategies.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2 wherein said farm resources comprise capital, land, labor, and machinery, crop storage, irrigation system capacity and water rights, nutrient loading.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said prompting said user to input information comprises the step of transmitting an instruction signal to said user via said ~~global~~ electronic communications network.

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5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said input information pertaining to said farm is at least one farm management preference selected from the group of agronomic, operational and physical farm information.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein industry information is selected from the group of seed prices, fertilizer prices, production contracts, agriculture insurance rates, agriculture marketing information, agriculture consultant's information, agriculture accounting information, and lender's interest rates.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said third party industry professional is selected from the group of input supply retailers, seed manufacturers, crop protection manufacturers, seed manufacturers' representatives, crop protection manufacturers' representatives, independent crop consultants, crop insurance agents, agricultural lenders, marketing advisors, agricultural certified public accountants, agricultural equipment manufacturers, and agricultural equipment manufacturers' dealers.

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the analyzing said mathematical model including information pertaining to said farm is a mathematical optimization algorithm selected from the group of linear, integer, mixed integer programming, and parametric programming.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said ~~global~~ electronic communication network is selected from the group consisting of the Internet, an Intranet, an extranet, a Local Area Network, a telephone network, a cellular network, a satellite network, a personal communication system, a television network, a wireless data network, a wireless Local Area Network, a wireless local loop/distribution system, a Voice Over Internet Protocol network, and a wide area network.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of allowing access to said input information by said third party industry professional.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said ~~display~~ form of said custom farm management plan is ~~in~~ a tabular form.

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12. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said ~~display~~ form of said custom farm management plan is ~~in~~ a graphical form.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of performing an iterative process to determine at least one additional farm management plan.

14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13 wherein said iterative process comprises modifying at least one controllable variable of said mathematical model, said at least one controllable variable selected from the group of crop programs, crop rotation patterns, different amounts of production contracts, different types of production contracts, and crop insurance.

15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13 wherein said iterative process comprises modifying at least one uncontrollable variable of said mathematical model, said at least one uncontrollable variable selected from the group of crop prices, yields and production costs.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 13 wherein said user selects a desired farm management plan that meets desired goals from the first farm management plan and the at least one additional farm management plan.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16 wherein said user compares between the first farm management plan and the at least one additional farm management plan based on gross income, downside risk, opportunity cost risk and resource use.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 16 wherein said desired farm management plan is determined from profit maximization, risk minimization, resource minimization, and environmental stewardship.

19. (Currently amended) A farm management system for developing a custom farm management plan for production agriculture for a farm, comprising:

    a. a first computer, said first computer comprising a first microprocessor, a first memory storage, and a first display;

    b. a second computer, said second computer comprising a second microprocessor, a second memory storage, and a second display, said second computer located remotely from said first computer;

    c. a host computer, said host computer comprising a host microprocessor and a host memory storage;

    d. an electronic ~~global~~ communications network, said network electronically coupling the host computer and said first computer and said second computer, such that said first computer and said second computer can communicate with said host computer;

    e. a host computer program, said computer program being resident in said host memory storage, said computer program configured to request and receive input information pertaining to a farm from said first computer, said input information comprising agricultural information relating to said farm;

    f. said computer program configured to receive third party industry information from a third party industry professional using said second computer, said third party industry information comprising agricultural information relating to said third party industry professional;

    g. said computer program configured to <u>generate and analyze a mathematical model based on</u> ~~analyze~~ said input information pertaining to said farm, and ~~analyze~~ said third party industry information from said third party industry professional using said second computer;

    h. said computer program configured to generate a custom farm management plan for a user based on said <u>analysis of said mathematical model</u> ~~input information pertaining to said farm and said third party industry information~~;

    i. said computer program configured to transmit over the electronic ~~global~~ communications network said custom farm management plan to said user ~~to be~~ ~~displayed~~ <u>in a form displayable</u> on said first computer.

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20. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein said custom farm management plan for production agriculture comprises crop selection and allocation of farm resources for seasonal or multi-seasonal cropping strategies.

21. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 20 wherein said farm resources comprise capital, land, labor, and machinery, crop storage, irrigation system capacity and water rights, nutrient loading.

22. (Currently amended) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein said configured to request input information comprises transmitting an instruction signal to said first computer via said ~~global~~ electronic communications network.

23. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein said input information pertaining to said farm is at least one farm management preference selected from the group of agronomic, operational and physical farm information.

24. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein third party industry information is selected from the group of seed prices, fertilizer prices, production contracts, agriculture insurance rates, agriculture marketing information, agriculture accounting information, and lender's interest rates.

25. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein said third party industry professional is selected from the group of input supply retailers, seed manufacturers, crop protection manufacturers, seed manufacturers' representatives, crop protection manufacturers' representatives, independent crop consultants, crop insurance agents, agricultural lenders, marketing advisors, agricultural certified public accountants, agricultural equipment manufacturers, and agricultural equipment manufacturers' dealers.

26. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein configured to analyze said input information pertaining to said farm is a mathematical optimization algorithm selected from the group of linear, integer, mixed integer programming, and parametric programming.

27. (Currently amended) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein said ~~global~~ electronic communication network is selected from the group consisting of the Internet, an Intranet, an extranet, a Local Area Network, a telephone network, a cellular network, a satellite network, a personal communication system, a television network, a wireless data network, a wireless Local Area Network, a wireless local loop/distribution system, a Voice Over Internet Protocol network, and a wide area network.

28. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 19 further comprising a computer program configured to allow access to said input information by said third party industry professional.

29. (Currently amended) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein said ~~display~~ form of said custom farm management plan is ~~in~~ a tabular form.

30. (Currently amended) The farm management system according to claim 19 wherein said ~~display~~ form of said custom farm management plan is ~~in~~ a graphical form.

31. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 19 further comprising a computer program configured to perform an iterative process to determine at least one additional farm management plan.

32. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 31 wherein said iterative process comprises the modification of at least one controllable variable, said at least one controllable variable selected from the group of crop programs, crop rotation patterns, different amounts of production contracts, different types of production contracts, and crop insurance.

33. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 31 wherein said iterative process comprises the modification of at least one uncontrollable variable, said at least one uncontrollable variable selected from the group of crop prices, yields and production costs.

34. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 31 wherein said user selects a desired farm management plan that meets desired goals from the farm management plan and the at least one additional farm management plan.

35. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 34 wherein said user compares between the farm management plan and the at least one additional farm management plan based on gross income, downside risk, opportunity cost risk and resource use.

36. (Original) The farm management system according to claim 34 wherein said desired farm management plan is determined from profit maximization, risk minimization, resource minimization, and environmental stewardship.

37. (Currently amended) A <u>computer readable medium comprising a</u> computer program <u>code</u> for generating a custom farm management plan for production agriculture for a farmer pertaining to a farm, <u>said computer program</u> comprising:

    a. ~~a module~~ <u>computer program code</u> for requesting and receiving input information from said farmer, said input information comprising agricultural information relating to said farm;

    b. ~~a module~~ <u>computer program code</u> for receiving third party industry information from a third party, said third party industry information comprising agricultural information relating to said third party;

    c. ~~a module~~ <u>computer program code</u> for <u>generating and analyzing a mathematical model of said farm based</u> ~~analyzing~~ said input information from said farmer, and ~~analyzing~~ said third party industry information from said third party;

    d. ~~a module~~ <u>computer program code</u> for generating a custom farm management plan for said farmer based on said <u>mathematical model analysis</u> ~~input information pertaining to said farm and said third party industry information~~; <u>and</u>

    e. ~~a module~~ <u>computer program code</u> for transmitting over an electronic ~~global~~ communications network said custom farm management plan to said farmer.

38. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium ~~program~~ according to claim 37 wherein said custom farm management plan for production agriculture comprises crop selection and allocation of farm resources for seasonal or multi-seasonal cropping strategies.

39. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium ~~program~~ according to claim 38 wherein said farm resources comprise capital, land, labor, and machinery, crop storage, irrigation system capacity and water rights, nutrient loading.

40. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium ~~program~~ according to claim 37 wherein said ~~module~~ computer program code for requesting input information comprises the step of transmitting an instruction signal to said user via said ~~global~~ electronic communications network.

41. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium ~~program~~ according to claim 37 wherein said input information pertaining to said farm is at least one farm management preference selected from the group of agronomic, operational and physical farm information.

42. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium ~~program~~ according to claim 37 wherein said third party industry information is selected from the group of seed prices, fertilizer prices, production contracts, agriculture insurance rates, agriculture marketing information, agriculture consultant's information, agriculture accounting information, and lender's interest rates.

43. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium ~~program~~ according to claim 37 wherein said third party is selected from the group of input supply retailers, seed manufacturers, crop protection manufacturers, seed manufacturers' representatives, crop protection manufacturers' representatives, independent crop consultants, crop insurance agents, agricultural lenders, marketing advisors, agricultural certified public accountants, agricultural equipment manufacturers, and agricultural equipment manufacturers' dealers.

44. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium program according to claim 37 wherein said module computer program code for analyzing said input information pertaining to said farm generating and analyzing said mathematical model is a mathematical optimization algorithm selected from the group of linear, integer, mixed integer programming, and parametric programming.

45. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium program according to claim 37 wherein said global electronic communication network is selected from the group consisting of the Internet, an Intranet, an extranet, a Local Area Network, a telephone network, a cellular network, a satellite network, a personal communication system, a television network, a wireless data network, a wireless Local Area Network, a wireless local loop/distribution system, a Voice Over Internet Protocol network, and a wide area network.

46. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium program according to claim 37 further comprising a module computer program code for allowing access to said input information by said third party.

47. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium program according to claim 37 further comprising a module computer program code for performing an iterative process to determine at least one additional farm management plan.

48. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium program according to claim 47 wherein said module computer program code for performing an iterative process comprises modifying at least one controllable variable, said at least one controllable variable selected from the group of crop programs, crop rotation patterns, different amounts of production contracts, different types of production contracts, and crop insurance.

49. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium program according to claim 47 wherein said module computer program code for performing an iterative process comprises modifying at least one uncontrollable variable, said at least one uncontrollable variable selected from the group of crop prices, yields and production costs.

50. (Currently amended) The computer <u>readable medium</u> ~~program~~ according to claim 47 wherein said farmer selects a desired farm management plan that meets desired goals from the farm management plan and the at least one additional farm management plan.

51. (Currently amended) The computer <u>readable medium</u> ~~program~~ according to claim 50 wherein said farmer compares between the farm management plan and the at least one additional farm management plan based on gross income, downside risk, opportunity cost risk and resource use.

52. (Currently amended) The computer <u>readable medium</u> ~~program~~ according to claim 50 wherein said desired farm management plan is determined from profit maximization, risk minimization, resource minimization, and <u>~~environmental stewardship.~~</u>